

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action of June 27, 2008 and the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment issued October 30, 2008. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 3-6, 12, 22-24, and 29 are requested.

The Office Action

The Examiner's withdrawal of the prior allowance of claim 5 is noted with disappointment.

Claims 3-6, 12, 21, 23-25, 27, and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Zanen (US 5,532,777) in view of Ogino (US 6,762,794).

Claim 22 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Ogino.

Claims 26 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Zanen in view of Ogino further in view of Suzuki (US 5,671,450).

Claims 23 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

35 U.S.C. § 112

It is submitted that 'planar' is supported by the drawings as filed. However, because 'planar' is not a necessary limitation, 'planar' has now been deleted from claims 23 and 24. Accordingly, it is submitted that all claims now comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112.

The Claims Distinguish Patentably Over the References of Record

First, Zanen only has a single adjustment means, particularly the angle adjustment means. Zanen lacks the distance and the focal length adjustment means in addition to the angle adjustment means as recited in claim 5.

Claim 5 calls for the adjusting means to adjust both the distance between the camera and the set of mirrors and the focal length of the camera. In Ogino, lenses 1116 and 1117 and motor 1121 control a zoom function (col. 15, lines 15-19). In Suzuki, in the embodiment of Figure 6A and 6B, moving the mirror assembly axially controls a zoom function (col. 6, lines 49-52). It is submitted because the zoom

elements 1116, 1117, and 1121 of Ogino and the transverse movement of Suzuki both perform the same zoom function, there is no motivation to add the Suzuki zoom function to the Ogino zoom function. Replacing the Ogino zoom system with the Suzuki zoom system would leave only a single adjustment means, not those adjustments as recited in claim 5. Zanen merely adjusts the angle of the mirrors.

It is submitted that there is no motivation in Zanen, Ogino, or Suzuki to add both the zoom mechanism 1116, 1117, 1118, 1121 of Ogino and the zoom mechanism of Figure 6A and 6B of Suzuki to the camera of Zanen. There is no apparent reason why one would modify Zanen to add two different two different mechanisms for performing the same function.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 5 and claims 3, 4, 6, 12, and 23 and 24, dependent therefrom distinguish patentably over the references of record.

Claim 22 calls for an adjusting means for automatically changing at least one system parameter, which automatic adjusting means includes a baseline adjustment means for automatically adjusting the distance between the two cameras. In Ogino, there is no automatic adjustment of the distance between the two cameras. Rather, this distance is adjusted and held at 65mm, (col. 8, lines 19-30; col. 10, lines 29-31; col. 11, lines 14-19).

Because Ogino specifically teaches that the distance between cameras should be set and held at 65mm during use, it is submitted that there is no motivation to modify Ogino to add a means for automatically adjusting the distance between the cameras.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 22 distinguishes patentably over the references of record.

Claim 29 calls for adjusting all three of the (1) predetermined angle between the set of mirrors, (2) the distance between the camera and the set of mirrors, and (3) a focal length of the camera. Suzuki adjusts a distance between the camera and the set of mirrors to perform a zoom function change the focal length. Ogino adjusts the lenses 1116, 1117 to change the focal length and perform the zoom function. It is submitted that there is no motivation to modify Zanen to add a zoom function by both adjusting the distance between the camera and the set of mirrors and

having another mechanism, particularly the lenses 1116, 1117 of Ogino to perform the very same function.

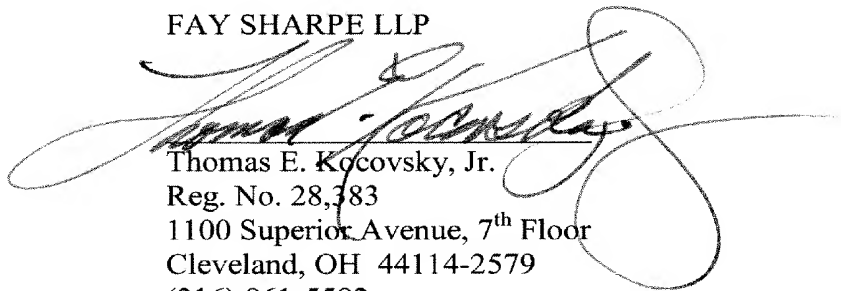
Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 29 distinguishes patentably and unobviously over the references of record.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that claims 3-6, 12, 22-24 and 29 distinguish patentably and unobviously over the references of record. An early allowance of all claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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